

March 19, 2003

Dear Member,

The undersigned organizations strongly oppose any cuts to the Medicaid program as part of the fiscal year 2004 budget resolution. As you know, the budget resolution reported by the House Budget Committee would require an estimated \$95 billion in cuts to Medicaid over the next 10 years. Such cuts would irreparably harm the millions of Americans now receiving essential health care coverage through the Medicaid program.

Medicaid provides health insurance to America's most vulnerable seniors, children, pregnant women, working families, and people with disabilities. Seniors receive prescription drug coverage and long-term care services through Medicaid. Children obtain vital screening and prevention services under Medicaid. Medicaid also provides the crucial services such as personal care and therapy that people with disabilities need.

The Budget Committee's resolution would require the Energy and Commerce Committee to institute Medicaid cuts of an estimated \$95 billion as part of a reconciliation bill. Such devastating cuts will create enormous hardship. These cuts would occur as states are facing the most severe budget crisis since World War II. States need more, not less, federal Medicaid funding to sustain their current Medicaid programs and avoid instituting even greater cutbacks that add to the ranks of the uninsured.

We urge you to oppose any Medicaid cuts as part of the fiscal year 2004 budget and to ensure the elimination of the reconciliation instructions directing that the Energy and Commerce Committee to institute these unacceptable cuts. We also ask you to oppose any cuts to Medicaid in the final budget resolution conference report adopted by Congress.

Sincerely,

ACORN: Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now  
AIDS Action Baltimore, Inc.  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
AIDS Survival Project  
AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition  
AIDS Treatment Data Network  
Alliance for Children and Families  
Alliance for Retired Americans  
Alzheimer's Association  
Ambulatory Pediatric Association  
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association of People with Disabilities  
American Association of School Administrators  
American Association on Mental Retardation  
American Congress of Community Support & Employment Services  
American Counseling Association  
American Dental Association

American Dental Hygienists' Association  
American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees  
American Health Care Association  
American Humane  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Deaf Children  
AMERIGROUP  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Brain Injury Association of America  
Centene Corporation  
Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York  
Children's Defense Fund  
Child Welfare League of America  
Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf  
Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Health Task Force  
Consortium of Developmental Disabilities Councils  
Consumers Union  
Diamonds in the Ruff Children's Society  
Easter Seals  
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation  
Families USA  
Family Voices  
Florida AIDS Action  
Friends and Relatives of Institutionalized Aged  
Gay Men's Health Crisis  
Generations United  
Housing Works, Inc.  
Human Rights Campaign  
International Foundation for Alternative Research in AIDS  
International Union, UAW  
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago  
Kennedy Krieger Institute  
March of Dimes  
Marcus Institute  
Medicare Rights Center  
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association for Home Care and Hospice  
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging  
National Association of Child Advocates  
National Association of Children's Hospitals

National Association of Community Health Centers  
National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils  
National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems  
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
National Citizen's Coalition for Nursing Home Reform  
National Coalition for the Homeless  
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
National Council of La Raza  
National Council on the Aging  
National Down Syndrome Congress  
National Education Association  
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Health Law Program  
National Mental Health Association  
National Partnership for Women and Families  
National Respite Coalition  
National Senior Citizens Law Center  
National Women's Law Center  
New York Citizens' Committee on Aging  
New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage  
Nursing Home Community Coalition of New York State  
NYC AIDS Housing Network  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Project DOCC - Delivery of Chronic Care  
Project Inform, San Francisco  
Public Justice Center  
SAVE ADAP Committee of the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition  
Service Employees International Union  
Society for Pediatric Research  
South Carolina Respite Coalition  
Spina Bifida Association of America  
Stand for Children  
The Arc of the United States  
The Title II Community AIDS National Network  
Treatment Action Group  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
United Cerebral Palsy  
United Jewish Communities  
Voice of the Retarded  
Volunteers of America  
Women Employed  
Women of Reform Judaism